

July 21, 2004
1200 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

NAICS: 541620

Metallurgical Consultant Services

Solicitation: RFQ-DC-04-00236

Closing date for all Quotes to be submitted is July 31, 2004

Point of Contact for all inquiries is Kevin Nilles, Contract Specialist, (202) 564-2231,
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The anticipated contract award date is August 01, 2004

This is a small-business set-aside

The place of performance is Washington, D.C.

All quotations shall be written and include two sections: Technical and Price. Quotations must be in sufficient detail to compare technical and price information. Award may be made based on initial quotations. The Technical section is more important than the Price section. The EPA may award to the non-lowest price offeror if it provides the Best Value to the EPA using a Trade-off process. All quotations are due by 4:00pm local time on July 31, 2004 to one of the addresses below (the EPA will not accept any proposal received after the exact date and time indicated for any reason, including incorrect addressing to the USPS address versus Courier address below):

USPS mail:

US EPA

Attn: Kevin Nilles

Mail Code: 3805R

1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20460-0001

Courier mail (FedEx, UPS, DHL):

US EPA

Attn: Kevin Nilles

Bid and Proposal Room 61107

Ronald Reagan Building

1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20460

The Statement of Work is Below:

STATEMENT OF WORK

Technical Support for the Office of Solid Waste (OSW)

Related to Recycling of Non-Ferrous Metals

I. INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND

The Office of Solid Waste (OSW) is in the process of developing a proposed rule that would remove the current regulatory disincentives that exist for the recycling of non-ferrous metals (such as copper, nickel, zinc) contained in F006 electroplating sludges and other waste streams associated electroplating operations; i.e., F007 plating baths and F008 residues from plating operations. As part of this rule, the Agency has to ensure that these materials are properly managed from the point of generation through the recycling process at a primary mineral processing smelter or secondary metals reclamation facility. Similarly, the Agency must ensure that the metals contained in these materials are actually recovered, rather than lost in the smelting process or smelting residues; i.e., slag.

Currently, the Agency intends to propose two different two metals concentration thresholds in providing this regulatory relief: one for commodity-like materials and one for waste-like materials. Of particular concern to this effort is establishing the most accurate and reliable quantitative thresholds, or “bright lines” and understanding the processes that occur within a smelting operation to separate out the recoverable metals from non-recoverable materials.

B. PURPOSE

This requirement is to provide technical expertise and services to Federal officials responsible for the activities described in the background. Specifically the required expert services shall be in mineral processing operations, with an emphasis on chemical and metallurgical processes (both pyrometallurgy and hydrometallurgy). The objective is to identify and answer a series of questions associated with the metallurgical processes occurring within a smelting operation. The understanding of these processes, as well as other related processes, is intended to help EPA both propose the most reliable “bright lines” as well as ensure that the metals contained in F006-F008 materials are actually recovered rather than discarded during the smelting process. The requirement further includes providing the EPA with assistance in understanding the fate and transport of cyanide contained in F006-F008 materials.

II. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Task 1. Identification of Relevant Questions for Analysis and Response. In collaboration with OSW staff, the contractor shall develop a series of questions and issues associated with understanding the metallurgical processes that occur within primary mineral operations and secondary metal reclamation facilities. Questions identified shall focus on understanding and describing: (1) the metallurgical processes that occur within a primary mineral processing operation; (2) the metallurgical differences that occur within a smelter when concentrated ore from mineral extraction and beneficiation operations is mixed with small amounts of processed

metal from electroplating operations; (3) the metallurgical differences, if any, between copper, nickel and zinc smelting operations; (4) the fate and transport of cyanide concentrations contained in F006-F008 materials during transport and smelting processing operations; (5) at what concentrations of incoming metal does actual recovery occur vs. discarded in the slag or destroyed in the smelting process.

The output of this task shall be the identification of questions and issues, in priority order, that the contractor shall answer as part of Task 2. EPA will then analyze this information and finalize the questions that the contractor shall answer as part of Task 2.

Task 2. Development of Draft Responses to Task 1 Questions. Upon identification of the pertinent questions in Task 1, the contractor shall develop responses that are well-researched, technically correct, cohesive, and written in a manner that is understandable to both the general public and technical experts in the field of metallurgy.

Output of this task shall be the development of draft written responses (in either Word Perfect or Microsoft Word) to the priority questions identified in Task 1.

Task 3. Development of Final Responses. EPA will review the draft responses developed by the contractor as part of Task 2, and provide comments to the contractor **within 14 days** of receipt of those draft written responses. The contractor shall then respond to the EPA comments **within 14 days** of receipt of those comments.

Output of this task shall be a final document that contains the written responses to the priority questions identified in Task 1.

III. TASK COMPLETION SCHEDULE

Task 1. Two weeks after award of contract.

Task 2. Four weeks after completion of Task 1.

Task 3. Eight weeks after completion of Task 2.